

## Reclamation's Use of Photography

### Interpretive Photography / Video

May be less than 5 percent of new Reclamation records.

Done by select offices (typically corporate or region).

Images and video created by professional staff and equipment.

Images typically are for general agency use and public distribution.

Images and video meet NARA standards in professional formats and are composed and produced specifically for enhanced visual appeal and technical quality.

Common uses:

- Visitor Centers
- Publications
- Internet
- Displays & Exhibits
- Multimedia presentations
- Media relations
- Public requests

### Industrial Photography / Video

Easily 90 percent of Reclamation's records.

Used by all offices: Service Center/Regional/Areas/Field.

Images are usually taken by general staff with little or no photographic training (unless a professional is tasked because specific technical expertise is needed).

Image & video record value are specific to each discipline and may never be used directly in an official report.

Images may or may not be publication quality (they can be point-and-shoot for agency use and retention and never intended to go to National Archive).

Video quality is typically low resolution and not suitable for public use or archive (such as cameras used for security or to inspect drains or underwater features).

Common uses:

- Safety of Dams reviews
- Facilities Operation reviews and manuals
- Design & Construction activities
- Geologic logs and documentation
- Environmental technical studies
- Contract performance
- Legal & accident documentation\*

### Digital Database

- ✦ Preserves digital camera original images
- ✦ Assigns official numbers without errors
- ✦ Provides searchable record of images that are not restricted.

### Centralized digital database with controlled access (no unauthorized editing of records or access to secure images)

Collection of images  
for publication & AV



Vast percentage is industrial photography with those used in bureau products entered into digital database. Otherwise images are part of files used by each office and are agency record only (not NARA standard).



Digital records are captioned as part of the image file (IPTC & camera original EXIF fields have been saved as part of the image). Images downloaded can contain entire caption information intact for end user. Images in the public interest available on internet search page.

Secure archive

Visual Identity images

special use images

routine work images

restricted images\*